



Call for Papers

Building a Nazi Racial Community in the South-East: Mobility and Transnational Transfers between Nazi Germany and the South-Eastern European ‘Volksdeutsche’

Cluj-Napoca, July 7-9, 2022

The research team of the project “Building a Nazi Racial Community in the South-East: A Transnational Perspective on the German Ethnic Group in Romania” would like to invite you to attend the international conference of the project, which will take place in a hybrid format (allowing speakers to attend it both live and online), in Cluj-Napoca, July 7-9, 2022.

Despite a recent trend towards researching entanglements of various fascist movements by adopting perspectives that goes beyond the borders of national states (see for example Kallis 2000, De Grand 2004, Finchelstein 2010; Costa Pinto and Kallis 2014; Iordachi 2014; Bauerkämper and Rossoliński-Liebe 2017), there is a lack of contributions on the transnational circulation of Nazi ideology and political practices within the German-speaking communities in Central and South-Eastern Europe. This international conference aims to fill this historiographical gap and open a debate about the flow of discursive tropes and political practices between Nazi Germany and South-Eastern European ‘Volksdeutsche’, but also the entanglements connecting the Nazi movements within the German ethnic groups in the region. The discussion will focus on the transnational mobility and transfers as a key component of the emergence and structure of Nazi movements within the German minorities in Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

Among the aspects of this topic which need further inquiry, we mention issues such as:

- (1) the mobility of the youth from the German minorities in South-Eastern Europe to Nazi Germany; the networks of personal relations created by this mobility and its role in the assimilation of the Nazi ideology;
- (2) the role of the transnational networks of personal relations in structuring the leadership of the local Nazi movements and transferring political practices;



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- (3) the circulation of Nazi ideological tropes, institutional models and practices between Germany and South-Eastern Europe, with a focus on how the local Nazi elite understood and adjusted them to the local context;
- (4) the discursive practices aiming at eradicating the social, religious, and cultural identity differences between the German groups in Romania with a view to create a “Nazi racial community” (*Volksgemeinschaft*);
- (5) the afterlife of the aforementioned transnational networks after Second World War and the role played by the latter in the emergence of the so-called *Landsmannschaften* of the South-East European ‘Volksdeutsche’ in the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria?

The organizers of the conference welcome paper proposals on these subjects, but not restrictively.

Submission of paper proposals should include name, title, five keywords, and an abstract of no more than 300 words. Participants will have 20 minutes for presenting their papers and 10 minutes for questions. The languages of the conference are English and German.

Please email your paper proposals by February 15, 2022 to:
ottmar.trasca.institut@gmail.com ; corneliu.pintilescu@gmail.com

Deadline for paper proposals submission: February 15, 2022.

Notification of paper acceptance: February 28, 2022.

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